

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Page 4, line 4, replace the paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

Since many of conventional piece mats are intended for antifouling and waterproof, they are made of molded resin mats or rubber mats. For this reason, many of the conventional piece mats have no permeability and exhibit infinite flow resistance value. Such piece mats ~~have~~ reflect sound waves ~~reflecting property~~ rather than absorb sound waves ~~reflecting property~~ within the cabin of the automobile. Thus, a conventional piece mat laid in a cabin of an automobile would reduce the sound absorbing property within the automobile cabin, resulting in a higher noise level. The inventors have confirmed this fact by a test using an actual automobile.

Page 4, line 10, replace the paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

An investigation made by the present inventor[[s, it]] showed that the arrangement of a piece mat having a flow resistance value between  $100 \text{ Nsm}^{-3}$  and  $1500 \text{ Nsm}^{-3}$  on the floor layering material according to the present invention is optimal in reducing the noise level within the cabin.